



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Thursday - October 10, 2002

- ***In the West***, clouds are overspreading across the region, although the weather remains dry and continues to promote autumn fieldwork. Cooler air is entering the ***Northwest***, where emerging, dryland winter grains are in need of rain.
- ***On the Plains***, a strong cold front is approaching ***northern Montana***. Elsewhere in the region, warm, dry weather favors summer crop harvesting and winter wheat emergence, although moisture is needed in a broad area centered on the ***central High Plains*** to sustain normal wheat development.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, showers continue to aid emerging winter wheat in the ***Ohio Valley***, while scattered showers are further slowing corn and soybean harvesting in the already wet ***upper Midwest***.
- ***In the South***, rain lingers across the ***Delta*** and the ***central Gulf Coast region***, further delaying a return to fieldwork and causing additional quality concerns for unharvested cotton. Meanwhile, showers are spreading into the ***middle and southern Atlantic States***, providing additional relief from long-term drought. Offshore, Tropical Depression Kyle is centered about 185 miles east of ***Cape Canaveral, Florida***, moving toward the west at 12 m.p.h.

Outlook: Widespread rain will persist through week's end across the ***Southeastern and Mid-Atlantic States***, while Tropical Depression Kyle will spark locally heavy showers in parts of ***Florida***. Meanwhile, showers will accompany a strong cold front across the ***Plains and upper Midwest***. In the front's wake, temperatures may average as much as 20 degrees F below normal across the ***central U.S.*** into early next week. Dry, warm weather is expected in the ***Pacific Coast States***, but cool, damp conditions will persist in ***New England***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for October 15-19 calls for above-normal precipitation in most areas from the ***Southwest and Rockies to the west slopes of the Appalachians***, but drier-than-normal conditions in the ***Pacific Northwest*** and much of the ***Atlantic Coast region***. Below-normal temperatures are forecast for the ***western two-thirds of the U.S.***, while above-normal readings will be confined to ***Florida***.

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